

BROUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council, held at Broughton Village Hall on Wednesday, 17 December 2014, commencing at 7.00pm.

Present: Cllrs Mrs MC Rust (in the Chair), R Baxter, Mrs HJ Bull, Mrs JC Chester, JH Noble, Mrs PA Scouse, B Withington, and Clerk to the Parish Council, Mr GA Duthie.
One member of the public.

14/7146 **APOLOGIES.** Apologies for absence were tendered by (and accepted for the reasons noted): Cllr R Shrive (working abroad), County Cllr C Groome (diary conflict), Borough Cllr J Hakewill (diary conflict).

14/7147 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.** None were made.

14/7148 **MINUTES.** The draft minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 19 November 2014, copies having been circulated, were approved by members and authorised for signature by the Chair.

14/7149 **RIGHT TO SPEAK.** Local resident, Mr B Scouse, made use of this facility to ask whether councillors were aware why potential housing sites currently identified by the Borough Council for the parish were located outside the existing village framework. It was explained that the sites referred to were those being promoted by third-parties, which would be considered during the local plan process but the present indications were that the planning authority would not be seeking to have Broughton designated as a 'principal village' in policy terms, so this should indicate against acceptability for proposals outside the village boundary.

14/7150 **REPORTS OF COUNTY AND BOROUGH COUNCILLORS.** Members noted the material circulated by email by County Cllr Groome, which included information concerning the ongoing NCC programme for renewal of lighting columns and the vagaries of specific lighting decisions, the mounting financial pressures confronting the County, confirmed improvements in Children's Services, progress with rail electrification, various events attended, successful designation of a technical school in Northampton, and an update concerning the imminent commencement of further improvement works at Pytchley crossroads.

Members also noted copy communications received from Borough Cllr Hakewill making representations on the mode of disposal for the planning appeal relating to the Redrow proposal seeking approval for the substitution of house types at the Cransley Hill site. The shared exchanges revealed a maintained view from the Planning Inspectorate that no necessity existed for the appeal to be dealt with by any means requiring oral evidence, so the matter would continue to be decided on the basis of written representations. Councillors accordingly agreed that any further comments would be settled for submission by the closing date of 24 December.

14/7151 **MATTERS ARISING.** Arising from 14/7141, it was reported that an order had now been placed for the supply and installation of the noticeboard at the site adjacent to the Red Lion public house; the contractor having been advised of the preferred specification and having been supplied with the necessary information to enable the

securing of the necessary licence from the highway authority. Members note that a pro-forma invoice for the cost had been invited and this would hopefully be received in time for settlement at the January 2015 meeting.

Arising from 14/7124, it was reported that Borough Council had now revised the emptying schedule for litter bins in the High Street (near the chip shop etc), such that these are being cleared three times weekly to cater for the high degree of usage. It had also been confirmed that the situation would be monitored so that further adjustments could be made if necessary.

Also arising from 14/7124, it was confirmed that the Borough Council had acknowledged the additional information provided in respect of the chicken manure issue affecting the Northampton Road vicinity and would be assessing for statutory nuisance if an informal resolution could not be achieved.

Once more arising from 14/7124, members noted that footpath GD 15 had now been cleared of overgrown vegetation following action by the County Council rights of way officer.

Arising from 14/7143, the Chair advised the meeting that she had been informed further changes to the bus service were likely in the New Year as a result of some of the representations made following recent service revisions.

14/7152

CORRESPONDENCE. The following items of correspondence were reported:

- a) A letter received from the County Council providing information in respect of its budget setting and council plan process.
- b) A communication received from a Mr Ashley Lofthouse, expressing interest in possibly filling one of the current casual vacancies on the Parish Council. Members heard Mr Lofthouse had been provided with relevant information, including about the proximity of the next election in May 2015, and agreed he should be encouraged to press his application.
- c) A communication sent by Cllr Baxter to MGWSP concerning a recent 'near miss' at the Kettering Road junction with the A43. Members noted the layout and marking of this junction had resulted in confusion for the drivers of vehicles travelling in opposing directions, due to uncertainty over priorities. Cllr Baxter had described the issue and sought assistance in improving signage.

14/7153

REPORTS OF MEMBERS ATTENDING MEETINGS OF OTHER BODIES.

Cllr Mrs Bull briefly mentioned the recent meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan group, which had been attended by perhaps 25 or so people, which was felt to be a slightly disappointing turnout given recent interest in the issue. It was thought this could be, in part, due to the increased level of challenge at the previous meeting (when some intense but very useful work had been undertaken by attendees), and the timing in the run up to Christmas.

The Chair then reported upon the meeting of the Village Hall Committee held on 9 December. Members heard a cheque had now been received from Barclays Bank PLC in respect of the village show donation, and a community grant had been collected in the sum of £2,500. The commemorative plaque reflecting designation of

the facility as a Queen Elizabeth II field had been erected, and the new Under 5s play area was being concentrated upon as the immediate priority. The next meeting was scheduled for 13 January 2015 and the minutes of the meeting held on 11 November were placed on circulation.

14/7154

POLICE REPORT. No report was submitted to this meeting but members noted the monthly figures for November showed 4 reported incidents; being 1 each of criminal damage and theft/handling, and 2 of violence (including domestic).

14/7155

DEVELOPMENT CONTROL.

Planning applications submitted for comment:-

The following application was considered and members **RESOLVED** to object to the proposal because:

- Expansion of this overall site was discounted as being sub-optimal on policy grounds in terms of site scale when Gypsy and Traveller accommodation needs and possibilities were recently reviewed in the district.
- The proposed expansion would likely result in an overall scale of development that could dominate the adjoining settled community in conflict with paragraph 12 of the Planning Policy for Traveller Sites.
- The proposal would result in an over-development/over-intensification of this site for these purposes, exacerbated by the constraints of the tapering site extent, with insufficient amenities and space being provided for residents if ever fully occupied; likely consequences being inadequacies in surface water drainage, sewage disposal, cramped layouts and inadequate separation between residential accommodation, lack of safe vehicle access and manoeuvring facilities, and lack of children's play provision.
- Insufficient space for visiting family/caravans.
- Inadequate safe pedestrian linkages to village services (lack of footway and lighting) will result in increased dependence on unsustainable transport options in the face of already pressured village roads (see recent traffic count data obtained in connection with Neighbourhood Plan exercise) – if approval is contemplated, then S106 obligations should be specifically sought to address this infrastructure shortfall.
- Inadequate school capacity to cater for additional children – if approval is contemplated, then S106 obligations should also be sought to address this infrastructure shortfall.
- No needs or personal circumstances have been demonstrated that overcome the planning harm of further intensification of this use in open countryside.

In addition, whilst not of itself a material consideration, the council agreed to flag that an existing enforcement notice in force in respect of unauthorised development in this vicinity has not been complied with and it is evident preparatory works have been undertaken that would appear to pre-empt the LPA's determination of this application. Accordingly the Borough Council to be asked to confirm what steps are to be taken to secure compliance and prevent further breaches of development control:

10 Old Northampton Road Siting of 10 Mobile Homes etc Mr Rooney

The following applications were considered with no observations being believed necessary by members:

Broughton Primary School	Extend car park and new fencing	School governors
Broughton Village Hall	Side and rear extensions, fencing etc	Broughton PC

Planning decisions reported:-

The following copy decision notice had been received, being an approval with conditions:

138 Northampton Road Single storey side extension Mr K Nokes

14/7156 FINANCE. The following items of income and expenditure were noted/agreed:-

Income £
None was reported.

Expenditure			£
Zen Internet	Web hosting charge	(direct debit)	4.79
NCC	Traffic survey work	(101632)	3,240.00
GA Duthie	Salary and WP	(101633)	252.24
HMRC	Income tax	(101634)	142.82
GA Duthie	Telephone expenses	(101635)	21.88
Broughton PF&VHA	Refurb grant - revised	(101636)	729.20
Mr P Horrix	Community award	(101637)	150.00

In respect of the refurbishment grant to Broughton Playing Fields and Village Hall Association, members heard that the roll-out of the plans for the comprehensive extension scheme had resulted in a revised programme of refurbishment work being undertaken so, for the present, a reduced application of £729.20 was being made in place of the £2,000 previously anticipated. This was noted and agreed for settlement on the basis of expenditure evidenced.

14/7157 POCKET PARK. Cllr Mrs Bull advised that some progress had been made in that it had been confirmed the most effective way to progress pathway clearance would be by means of spraying a suitable systemic herbicide, rather than by physical cutting. This would both be less labour intensive and also ensure the pathways would be open for longer. It was agreed the matter be revisited at the January 2015 meeting, when a specification for the work could be settled to enable action before spring.

14/7158 WEBSITE. It was confirmed that Mr Bodicoat had agreed a willingness to undertake development and maintenance work, so discussion would continue on terms and requirements.

14/7159 GATEWAY PLANTERS. Noted that an approach to KBC was still to be made.

14/7160 FORMER CLLR STAMPER'S ARCHIVE MATERIAL. Members noted an inventory of the retained material had now been received and had been referred to the County Archivist. This reference had stressed the desire for removal as swiftly as possible to enable planned improvement works to Mrs Stamper's home.

14/7161

GENERAL INTEREST ITEMS.

Cllr Baxter reported that a light was out at 2 Thurben Close.

Cllr Baxter mentioned that the footway near the construction site in Church Street required to be reinstated.

Cllr Baxter clarified the changes needed to the street lighting arrangements in Northampton Road – columns outside numbers 41 and 43 should be turned off and those outside 40 and 42 should be turned on.

The Chair reported that the footways at the Knick Knack and Bakehouse Lane required attention.

Members then considered and agreed a nomination for this year's community award in favour of Kate and Peter Horrix for their vision and energy in arranging and presenting the display commemorating the centenary of the outbreak of the Great War; this had been a very poignant and thought provoking initiative, much appreciated by visitors.

14/7162

DATE OF NEXT MEETING. It was reported that the next scheduled meeting of the Parish Council would be on Wednesday 21 January 2015, at 7:00pm in the Village Hall.

14/7163

URGENT ITEMS ADMITTED BY THE CHAIR. None were raised.

21 January 2015

Signed.....